

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented) A warming-up apparatus for a fuel cell, which generates power due to an electrochemical reaction between hydrogen gas, which is fuel, and oxygen gas, which is an oxidant, which comprises:

- (a) a high-pressure tank for storing hydrogen gas;
- (b) a hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank having a hydrogen-occlusion alloy accommodated therein;
- (c) a branched pipe connecting the high-pressure tank to the hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank and the fuel cell, the branched pipe including a first branch for transferring hydrogen discharged from said high-pressure tank to the hydrogen-occlusion alloy in said hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank and a second branch for transferring hydrogen discharged from said high-pressure tank to the fuel cell; and
- (d) heat-transmitting means which transmits heat from the hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank to the fuel cell, wherein the heat is generated in the hydrogen-occlusion alloy during the course of storing the hydrogen gas transferred by said first branch of the branched pipe into said hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank.

21. (Previously presented) A warming-up apparatus for a fuel cell, which generates power due to an electrochemical reaction between hydrogen gas, which is fuel, and oxygen gas, which is an oxidant, which comprises:

- (a) a high-pressure tank for storing hydrogen gas;
- (b) a hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank having a hydrogen-occlusion alloy accommodated therein;
- (c) a three-way valve for switching between a stationary position, in which hydrogen discharged from the high-pressure tank is directed towards the fuel cell, and a warming-up position, in which hydrogen discharged from the high-pressure tank is directed towards the hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank; and
- (d) heat-transmitting means which transmits heat from the hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank to the fuel cell, wherein the heat is generated in the hydrogen-occlusion alloy during the

course of storing the hydrogen gas transferred by said three-way valve in said warming-up position into said hydrogen-occlusion alloy tank.

22-25. (Canceled)